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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Joseph E. Kaminkow, *et al.*

Attorney Docket No.: IGT1P061/P-573

Application No.: 09/927,742

Examiner: Corbett Coburn

Filed: August 10, 2001

Group: 3714

Title: FLEXIBLE LOYALTY POINTS  
PROGRAM

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail on March 19, 2004 in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signed:

  
Tomika Thomas

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BEFORE FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE  
(37 CFR §§ 1.56 AND 1.97(c))**

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MAR 25 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, a copy of which is attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit this reference in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make this citation of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that this reference indeed constitutes prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, or after three months of the filing date of this application, whichever event occurred last, but it is believed before the mailing date of either: (i) a final action under §1.113 or (ii) a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

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Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement is

- a statement as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e); or
- the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

The undersigned hereby states:

- that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application no more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement Under 37 CFR §1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application; this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

If fees are due, enclosed is our Check No. 8808 for \$180.00 in payment of the Information Disclosure Statement Fee. If it is determined that any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. IGT1P061).

Respectfully submitted,  
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

  
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Form 1449 (Modified)  Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant  (Use Several Sheets if Necessary)		Atty Docket No. IGT1P061/P-573	Application No.: 09/927,742
		Applicant: Joseph E. Kaminkow	
		Filing Date August 10, 2001	Group 3713

#### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
	1A	5,988,501	11/23/1999	Murakami, <i>et al.</i>			02/13/1997
	2A	6,142,876	11/07/2000	Cumbers			08/22/1997
	3A	6,193,156	02/27/2001	Han, <i>et al.</i>			11/12/1998
	4A	6,424,884	07/23/2002	Brooke, Jr., <i>et al.</i>			03/03/1999

#### Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application

Examiner Initial	No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
							Yes	No
	1B	DE 19855117A1	30.11.1998	DE				X
	2B	WO00/38089	29.06.2000	PCT			X	
	3B	WO02/058020	25.07.2002	PCT			X	

#### Other Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Author, Title, Date, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication
	1C	RANKL W ET AL.: "Handbuch der Chipkarten, KONTAKTBEHAFTETE KARTEN" HANDBUCH DER CHIPKARTEN. AUFBAU – FUNKTIONSWEISE – EINSATZ VON SMART CARDS, MUENCHEN: Carl Hanser Verlag, De, 1999, Pages 110-125, XP002242017, ISBN: 3-466-21115-2, the whole document
	2C	
Examiner		Date Considered

Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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